



FACT SHEET #13:

Dust Suppressants

Dust suppressants are products that are applied to soil surfaces in order to limit the creation of fugitive dust emissions. A variety of products are available, and finding one that fits your project's activities can reduce the amount of watering needed for dust control. Over the long term, using dust suppressants can result in significant cost savings compared to regular, frequent watering. In some instances, the resulting soil stabilization can last from 1 to 12 months.

Some dust suppressants are not designed for areas subject to daily disturbances, high volume traffic, or heavy equipment traffic—check with the product vendor if these conditions exist at your site.

Maricopa County Earthmoving Permits require that fugitive dust generated from all earthmoving activities be controlled. For many projects, dust palliatives can be an effective and economical alternative to watering.

Be sure to ask the product vendor for the recommended dilution, application rate, and application frequency of the product you choose because these vary significantly by product. Before a weekend, holiday, or other inactive period of less than five days, a dust palliative that is diluted to not less than 1/20 of the concentration required to stabilize a surface for six months is recommended.

Maricopa County recommends the use of non-toxic, non-corrosive products. A contractor is responsible for assuring that its use of dust suppressants is in compliance with all applicable environmental laws.